

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJ: MULTI-REGIONAL RADIO PROJECT, SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY: PAVEL
KUZNETSOV

REF: STATE 117445

SUMMARY: EMBASSY PLEASED TO LEARN OF PAVEL KUZNETSOV'S COMPETENCE IN PROGRAM AND HAPPY TO REPORT THAT IN FOLLOW-UP LUNCHEON, EMBOFFS LEARNED THAT OVERALL EVALUATION PROGRAM BY KUZNETSOV VERY GOOD, BOTH PROFESSIONALLY AND SOCIALLY. HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED THE DC ORIENTATION PROGRAM, ACTUAL SEMINAR IN SYRACUSE AND WARM FAMILY HOSPITALITY. VISITS TO RADIO STATIONS, ESPECIALLY BLACK STATION IN NEW YORK AND INDEPENDENT STATION IN SAN FRANCISCO "MOST EDUCATIONAL" ACCORDING TO KUZNETSOV. END SUMMARY.

1. AT LUNCHEON WITH EMBOFFS, KUZNETSOV EXPRESSED HIS OVERALL APPROVAL OF THE TRAINING PROGRAM. ORIENTATION PROGRAM WAS WELL-RUN AND USEFUL. HE VIEWED SYRACUSE SEMINAR AS "FINE PROGRAM EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-ORGANIZED." HE POINTED OUT OBVIOUS PROBLEM OF SATISFYING NEEDS OF PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS ALL THE TIME, THEREFORE SOME ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAM "NOT INTERESTING OR USEFUL" TO HIM.

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2. HE COULD NOT PRAISE THE "WARM AMERICAN HOSPITALITY" ENOUGH. HE WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH HIS HOSTS IN SYRACUSE AND ENJOYED HIS EXPERIENCE LIVING THERE. HE TALKED ABOUT HIS "WONDERFUL RECEPTION" BY MOST EVERYBODY AND TALKED OF THE "GREAT PEOPLE" (AMERICAN SLANG) HE MET.

3. DURING COURSE OF CONVERSATION AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT HIS PAST EXPERIENCE LIVING IN NIGERIA, IT APPARENT THAT KUZNETSOV DID NOT ACTIVELY SEEK CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS WITH AFRICANS IN GROUP. ATTITUDE ONE MORE OF TOLERANCE THAN ACCEPTANCE.

4. HE THOUGH IDEA OF SMALL WORKING GROUPS DURING WASHINGTON ORIENTATION EXTREMELY HELPFUL IN GETTING TO KNOW PARTICIPANTS AND LEADERS. APPRECIATED FREEDOM OF QUESTIONING SPEAKER AT ANY TIME IN SYRACUSE SEMINAR ALTHOUGH HE CLAIMS TO HAVE "SAT BACK" DURING MOST OF THE QUESTIONING.

5. WITH REGARDS TO CRITICALLY-ORIENTED QUESTIONS RAISED BY AMERICANS AND OTHERS, HE CITES CERTAIN SAMENESS OF QUESTIONS CROSS-COUNTRY WITH JEWISH QUESTION HEADING THE LIST. HE ALSO FELT THAT AMERICAN JOURNALISM STILL NOT "OBJECTIVE" IN ITS TREAT OF SOVIET UNION. HE MENTIONED FOR EXAMPLE THAT HEDRICK SMITH'S BOOK ON HIS EXPERIENCES IN THE USSR IS "JUST WHAT HE EXPECTED" AND NOT BALANCED.

6. ON OTHER HAND, KUZNETSOV WAS FASCINATED WITH VISITS TO INDEPENDENT STATION IN SAN FRANCISCO AND "BLACK" STATION IN NYC. IMPRESSED WITH FIRST DUE TO PERSEVERANCE THIS SMALL GROUP OF PEOPLE AND WITH THE LATTER DUE CONSTRUCTIVE MODERATE APPROACH TO BLACK PROBLEMS.

7. IN SPITE SOME NEGATIVE FEEDBACK, KUZNETSOV RETURNED WITH A VERY POSITIVE ATTITUDE OF SYRACUSE PROGRAM AND AMERICAN HOSPITALITY. HE WAS VERY HAPPY TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY OF "IN-DEPTH" KNOWLEDGE OF USA (AS COMPARED TO HIS PREVIOUS SHORT TRIPS).

8. SINCE RETURNING HE CLAIMS TO HAVE AIRED FOUR PROGRAMS OUT OF A FIVE-PROGRAM SERIES ABOUT HIS TRIP AND IMPRESSIONS OF THE STATES. HE HAS PROMISED TO SEND THE SCRIPTS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SYRACUSE SEMINAR DIRECTOR. ACCORDING KUZNETSOV, DIRECTOR WILL BE "SURPRISED" AT TONE OF SCRIPTS, MEANING THAT THEY ARE NOT AS NEGATIVE AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED.

9. RE PARA 8, STATE COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMAN YEVSTAV'EV TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE REQUESTED KUZNETSOV TO DELETE CERTAIN "NEGATIVE" PORTIONS FROM ORIGINAL SCRIPT.

10. FINAL POSITIVE NOTE CENTERS ON FACT THAT KUZNETSOV'S
OVERALL FAVORABLE REACTION TO PROGRAM LED HIM TO SAY
THAT "YES, I WOULD RECOMMEND THE PROGRAM FOR OTHERS AND
TO THE STATE COMMITTEE."

11. EMBASSY WILL FOLLOW-UP ON KUZNETSOV AND POSSIBLE
PARTICIPATION FUTURE PROGRAMS. CONVEY OUR "HIGH MARKS"
X ORGANIZERS FOR CAREFUL SELECTION HOST FAMILIES AND
SMOOTH OPERATION PROGRAM.
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